



**CITY OF MESA, ARIZONA**  
**ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT**

**REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS**

**DOWNTOWN FAÇADE IMPROVEMENT**

**Project Funding by the United States Department of  
Housing and Urban Development**  
Through the Community Development Block Grant Program

**CITY OF MESA PROJECT No. CP0781**  
**HUD PROJECT No. IDIS 752**

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The City of Mesa (City) is seeking qualified consulting firms or teams to provide complete design services for the Downtown Façade Improvement project.

All qualified firms that are interested in providing these services to the City of Mesa are invited to submit their Statement of Qualifications (SOQ). All SOQs must comply with the requirements specified in this Request for Qualifications (RFQ).

**The City intends to award three to five (3 – 5) Design Contracts to different firms from this solicitation.** At the City's discretion, contract duration for these agreements may be longer than one (1) year, but will not be longer than three (3) years. The City reserves the right to issue separate contracts to the selected firms for different phases of the Downtown Façade Improvement project.

### **SECTION I – PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The proposed project includes the preparation of façade improvement designs for individual, privately-owned buildings within downtown Mesa. The designs shall enhance the public realm through aesthetic improvements, storefront improvements, incorporation of shade, and where applicable, reflect the historic character of the building. These projects may include the removal of existing City-owned colonnades located within the street right-of-way, adjacent to the buildings. Some new features may be constructed within the right-of-way through permit from the City. The Design Consultants shall work directly with property and business owners to develop a conceptual design that must also receive approval from an Ad Hoc Committee prior to the preparation of a final design. Final façade improvement designs shall include sufficient detail to receive approval from the City's Design Review Board, create construction cost estimates, create biddable project documents, and receive necessary building permits.

City may include other miscellaneous improvements, as needed.

### **SECTION II – OVERVIEW OF PROJECT PHASES**

The City of Mesa seeks qualified consulting firms, or teams, with extensive experience and knowledge of MAG and City of Mesa standards and regulations, to provide complete design-phase services and possible construction-phase services for the Downtown Façade Improvement project.

The following is a summary of the major tasks. These will be reviewed with the selected consultant and defined to meet the needs of the project as part of the contract scoping.

- Task 1 – Project Management
- Task 2 – Design Concepts
- Task 3 – Detailed Design and Construction Documents
- Task 4 – Contracting Assistance
- Task 5 – Construction Phase Services

The project plans will be prepared for bid advertisement in accordance with City of Mesa procurement requirements and standard bid documents. The City may also request the Consultant assist with pre-construction and construction phase services for the project, including construction observation, testing, and final acceptance services.

Regardless of the level of service ultimately needed, a consultant with successful experience in these areas is very desirable.

### **SECTION III – SCOPE OF WORK**

The following is a brief summary of the five key project tasks:

#### **Task 1: Project Management**

The Consultant shall establish a project management system to provide adequate scope, schedule and budget control, and be responsive to input from the City and other stakeholders. Status and project meetings with all participating City staff (including stakeholders as necessary) will be conducted on a regular basis. The purpose of these meetings shall be to report to the City on project status issues such as work in progress, work completed, and delivery schedule.

The meetings shall also be for discussion of various technical issues and strategies associated with all phases of the project. Meeting minutes documenting the decisions made and action items shall be prepared by the Consultant and submitted to the attending parties.

**Task 1.1 – Project Meetings.** Consultant shall attend a project initiation meeting organized by the City Manager's Office. This meeting will serve to establish general design expectations and limitations, lines of communication, and other administrative details.

The Selected Consultants shall attend a Project Kick-Off meeting, organized by the City Manager's Office, where all Selected Consultants and property/business owners will meet. After this meeting, business/property owners will have the opportunity to submit to the City their ranked preferences of the Selected Consultants. The City will take these preferences into consideration when pairing Consultants to a specific property; however, the City reserves the right to make the assignments based on the overall best interest of the City.

The Consultant shall then meet with their assigned property/business owners to understand their vision and objectives for their building façade.

The Consultant shall meet with their assigned property/business owners to present prepared designs and resolve concerns before submitting said designs to the Ad Hoc Committee.

The Consultant shall meet with the City and participating agencies on a regular basis to report project progress.

**Task 1.2 – Project Schedule.** Consultant shall provide a project schedule showing project meetings, project deliverables, and the major milestones required by the City. The schedule shall be updated on a monthly basis.

**Task 1.3 – Project Status Reports.** Consultant shall provide a monthly project progress report to the City Project Manager and shall send copies to business and property owners. The Consultant shall also provide updates above and beyond monthly reports as appropriate (e.g.: major milestones in the design process).

**DELIVERABLES:** MONTHLY STATUS MEETINGS  
MONTHLY SCHEDULE UPDATES  
PROGRESS REPORTS AND  
MEETING MINUTES

#### **Task 2: Design Concepts**

The purpose of this task is to develop Design Concepts.

The Design Concepts shall delineate the limits of improvements and type(s) of work to be done, and provide a preliminary project cost estimate.

The Consultants may be responsible for performing a topographic survey of the area including all existing features and utilities, and preparing mapping and base sheets to properly show the existing conditions.

The Consultants shall also identify and detail what coordination shall be needed with existing infrastructure and stakeholders, in particular utility relocations, traffic control and businesses. These items shall be included in the preliminary cost estimates for each project as well.

Consultants shall make all reasonable efforts to work in cooperation with business and property owners. As an affiliate of the City of Mesa, the Consultants are expected to demonstrate exceptional customer services and professionalism in their interactions with business and property owners.

One design shall not be applied to multiple buildings. The Consultants shall instead seek to create designs that independently enhance the unique attributes of each building, including historical features. Consultants shall also meet with the business/property owners they are paired with to learn their vision for the façade improvement. Consultants shall not provide business/property owners with pre-made renderings at this meeting. Once Consultants have met with their paired business/property owners, they shall produce up to three (3) concepts for the owners to select from. Business/Property owners shall provide final approval of designs before Consultants submit final designs to the City Project Manager for review and approval. Once approved, the Consultants shall submit the final design to the Ad Hoc Committee and Design Review Board.

**DELIVERABLES:** SURVEYING, MAPPING AND FIELD INVESTIGATIONS  
CONCEPTUAL PLANS AND ESTIMATE

### **Task 3: Detailed Design and Construction Documents**

Based on the approval of the Design Concepts, the Consultant shall prepare detailed design and construction documents for review. Each review of these documents shall include plans (drawn in AutoCAD to City standards), cost estimate, and technical specifications.

**Task 3.1 – Detailed Design.** Provide complete design services including, but not limited to, the following:

- Architectural
- Civil Engineering
- Electrical Engineering – including lighting, power, security system, public addressing system and other special systems
- Fire Protection Engineering
- Landscape Architecture
- Structural Engineering
- Geotechnical work

**Task 3.2 – Design Review Submittals.** Develop detailed plans, specifications and project cost estimates and submit to the City for review and approval at the following completion stages.

For vertical projects:

- Design Concepts
- Initial Plan Submittal
- Permit Plan CDs

Prepare plans in accordance with the most current version of the *City of Mesa Engineering Procedures Manual*, *MAG Standard Specifications and Details* as amended by the City of Mesa, the Arizona Utility Coordinating Committee *Public Improvement Project Guide*, and other standards such as AASHTO, MUTCD, ASTM and Building Codes as adopted by the City of Mesa, as applicable. All plans shall be prepared using AutoCAD 2014, shall be 24" x 36" in size and shall be prepared on the City of Mesa's standard plan sheet.

Plans to be designed to the necessary level of effort to receive building permits from the City of Mesa.

The Consultant shall incorporate the City's review comments into the subsequent submittal. The Consultant shall prepare a tabulation of the review comments and the proposed resolution for each comment. Consultant must provide a brief explanation for each comment that it proposes to not incorporate; otherwise the City expects all comments to be addressed.

**Task 3.3 – Cost Estimates.** Consultant shall prepare detailed construction cost estimates for each submittal.

**Task 3.4 – Comment Resolution Meetings.** Participate in review meetings with City staff, tabulate and address comments, and submit a written comment resolution summary, at each plan review stage. The City considers responsiveness and communication regarding review comments a key criterion in evaluating the Consultant's performance. The City recognizes that previous comments may be superseded as design progresses and that some review comments require additional discussion and technical judgment prior to final resolution. Comment resolution meetings should be scheduled as needed to facilitate this discussion and resolution. The City's expectation is that responses be documented for all review comments and that the Consultant should never independently delete or ignore review comments.

**Task 3.5 – Utility Coordination.** The Consultant shall provide non-City utility coordination, information, and communication as outlined in the Non-City Utility Coordination Submittal Guideline. The Consultant shall determine all utility conflicts and advise the City and the respective utility company. City-owned utilities will be coordinated by City staff. The Consultant shall prepare applications and supporting materials, as required, to secure project permits and approvals. All utility coordination correspondence shall be sent to the City's Utility Coordinator at [ucoord@mesaaz.gov](mailto:ucoord@mesaaz.gov).

Consultants shall obtain a Blue Stake design ticket by contacting Arizona Blue Stake (AZ811).

Consultant shall request City and non-City utility record drawings, facility maps, and as-built information to show on all plan sets, including the initial plan submittal.

The Consultant shall send utility clearance letters to the non-City utilities with the associated plans. The plans shall show existing and proposed City and non-City utilities, relocations, existing and proposed right-of-way and easements. The Consultant shall design joint trench alignments and profiles with input from the non-City utilities.

The Consultant shall be responsible for obtaining testhole data (pothole data) and testhole coordination. If preliminary conflicts are identified, preparation of the pothole list shall begin at the initial submittal stage. The Consultant shall ask non-City utilities if potholes are required.

The Consultant shall prepare a utility report, or conflict matrix, at the earliest possible stage of the project using information received from the utility companies, Blue Stake design ticket, and pothole data. The report or matrix shall include utility conflicts, relocations, utility relocation timeframes, approved methods to support existing infrastructure, and permit requirements. The matrix shall be updated and distributed at each submittal stage. Information listed in the report or matrix, such as methods to support existing infrastructure and utility relocations, shall be called out on plans.

The Consultant shall have a utility coordination meeting at each plan submittal stage if relocations are required. During the plan development process, the City's Utility Coordinator, in conjunction with the Consultant and non-City utility companies, shall define how utility conflicts will be resolved, who is doing the work, and who is paying for the work. Utility coordination shall be close to completion by the permit plan review.

The Consultant shall be responsible for reviewing relocation plans produced by the non-City utility companies to assure that utility conflicts are mitigated or eliminated and that proposed utility installations conform to City's standard details and MAG.

**Task 3.6 – Public Meetings.** Assist with stakeholder and public meetings as required.

The City, through its City Manager's Office, will handle the day-to-day tasks associated with public outreach and communication with the public and stakeholders. The Consultant shall be primarily responsible for preparing supporting documentation, such as exhibit boards, and for attending public meetings to help answer questions.

A formal Public Outreach Program or Public Relations Plan by the Consultant is not anticipated. The City's existing Public Relations Program will adequately address the needs that are currently identified. If additional requirements are identified, for example as part of the environmental determination, then those issues will be discussed and a scope of work mutually agreed upon by the City and Consultant.

**Task 3.7 – Final Construction Documents.** Furnish the City with one (1) full-size set of plans on bond paper, specifications and a cost estimate at each review stage; and one (1) reproducible mylar set of final full-sized drawings, with final specifications and documents for construction phase of a project. The City will provide reproduction of the drawings and documents for reviews, submittals, and construction phase. Final drawings and specifications shall also be submitted in electronic format.

The plans, specifications and estimate (PS&E) shall be in City of Mesa standard format and utilize the City's Standard Specifications and Special Provisions.

**DELIVERABLES:** PS&E REVIEW SUBMITTALS  
COMMENT RESOLUTION SUMMARIES FOR EACH STAGE  
UTILITY AND AGENCY COORDINATION  
FINAL BID DOCUMENTS

#### **Task 4: Contracting Assistance**

If requested by the City of Mesa, the Consultant shall provide contracting assistance services that may include:

- Attend meetings (such as Pre-Bid Meetings) with Contractors for the project to discuss the construction documents, field conditions, and to answer questions. Prepare meeting minutes for review and distribution.
- Answer questions during the bidding period from prospective contractors and vendors and prepare a telephone log summary of questions and answers.
- Prepare Addenda for review and approval by the City. The City will distribute to plan holders.

**DELIVERABLES:** MEETING MINUTES  
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS FROM CONTRACTORS  
FURNISH ADDENDA TO THE BID DOCUMENTS

#### **Task 5: Construction Phase Services**

Construction phase services may be required at the City's discretion. The City may elect to self-perform construction administration and inspection on the projects, or may request the Consultant to provide these services.

Interested consultants should offer a general overview of their construction phase services and experience in their SOQ submittal.

The construction phase scope of services will be defined in detail during contract negotiations to meet the needs of each project. The following is an outline of the basic services:

- Project administration assistance
- Participate in the pre-construction meeting and/or progress meetings
- Review shop drawings, submittals, and respond to Contractor RFI's
- Review project reports created by the City Inspector or submitted by the Contractor
- Review technical proposals and cost submittals and make recommendations
- Construction observation, inspection, and quality control testing services
- Assist with project closeout activities
- Review and verify quantity measurements and progress payments to Contractors
- Periodic site visits and reviews of the project
- Review of subcontractor selection criteria and process
- Develop punch-list and record drawings
- Review final payment for release of retention

Consultant may be requested to prepare Record Drawings for the project, based upon the Contractor furnished information and field observations, after project completion. The Record Drawings, if requested, shall be required in both hard copy and digital format (AutoCAD).

**DELIVERABLES:** DOCUMENTATION OF THE CONSTRUCTION PROJECT  
CONSTRUCTION MEETINGS  
CONSTRUCTION OBSERVATIONS AND INSPECTION  
QUALITY CONTROL TESTING  
RECORD DRAWINGS

#### **SECTION IV – PRE-SUBMITTAL CONFERENCE**

A pre-submittal conference will be held at **8:00 am on February 16, 2017 at the City of Mesa (Mesa City Plaza, Room 170, 20 East Main Street, Mesa AZ)**. At this meeting, City staff will discuss the scope of work, general contract issues and respond to questions from the attendees. Attendance at the pre-submittal conference is not mandatory and all interested firms may submit a Statement of Qualifications whether or not they attend the conference.

**All interested firms are encouraged to attend the Pre-Submittal Conference since City staff will not be available for meetings or to respond to individual inquiries regarding the project scope outside of this conference. In addition, there will not be meeting minutes or any other information published from the Pre-Submittal Conference.**

#### **SECTION V – STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS EVALUATION CRITERIA**

Each Statement of Qualifications (SOQ) will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

##### **A. General information. (10 points)**

Provide a general description of the consulting firm and/or team that is proposing to provide the services, including identifying subconsultants. Provide an organization chart showing key personnel. For each key person, provide the following information:

1. Percentage of time that each person will be committed to the project
2. Length of time with the firm
3. Applicable professional registrations

##### **B. Experience and qualifications of the firm/team and key personnel. (50 points)**

1. Provide a list of similar projects on which the project team has experience. Specifically reference projects relating to historic preservation, federally funded projects, façade improvements, and urban pedestrian improvements including shade. For each reference project, please provide the following information:
  - a. Description of the project, including project name and location
  - b. Project owner and/or client information
  - c. Role of the firm, including a description of the services provided
  - d. Role of each key team member who worked on the reference project and the percentage of time spent by each key team member on said project
  - e. Approximate dates services were provided
  - f. Reference information (two contacts including current telephone numbers and correct email addresses, per project)
2. List all City of Mesa projects where the firm/team provided services in the last five years, completed or on-going, that are not already included in the preceding sections.
3. Overall evaluation of the firm/team and its perceived ability to provide the required services will be considered along with the evaluators' perception of the clarity, completeness, and presentation of the Statement of Qualifications. This is to be determined by the selection panel members. No submittal response is required for this item. Information obtained from the Statement of Qualifications and from any other reliable source may be used in the evaluation and selection process.



**C. Understanding of the project and approach to performing the required services. (30 points)**

Discuss the major issues your team has identified on this project and how your firm/team intends to address those issues. Identify any technical innovations that may be incorporated and/or innovative approaches that will be used in executing the work. Also, discuss the particular expertise your firm/team offers and how you propose to use that expertise to benefit the City to add value to the project.

**D. Current workload and the ability of project team to start immediately. (10 points)**

Provide a table or list that summarizes the current major assignments of all key team members, percentage of time committed to each assignment, anticipated end date of major assignments, and percentage of time to be committed to this project. Also include a statement as to when the team would be available to start work on this project. Firms that demonstrate their ability to start immediately and to effectively manage this project, in addition to their current workload, may be awarded up to ten (10) points for this sub-category.

**SECTION VI – SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS**

The Statement of Qualifications shall include a one-page cover letter, plus a maximum of **10 pages** to address the SOQ evaluation criteria (*excluding* resumes but *including* an organization chart with key personnel and their affiliation). Resumes for each team member shall be limited to a maximum length of two pages and should be attached as an appendix to the SOQ. Minimum font size shall be 10pt. Please provide **eight (8) hard copies and one (1) USB with a pdf of the Statement of Qualifications by 2:00 pm on March 1, 2017.** The City reserves the right to accept or reject any and all Statements of Qualification. The City is an equal opportunity employer.

Delivered or hand-carried submittals must be delivered to the Engineering Department reception area on the fifth floor of Mesa City Plaza Building in a sealed package. On the submittal package, please display: Firm name, project number, and/or project title.

All submittals should be sent or delivered to:

**CITY OF MESA  
ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT  
Donna Horn  
Fifth Floor – Suite 500  
City Plaza Building  
20 East Main Street  
Mesa, Arizona 85201**

If a company wishes to submit a company brochure, this can be done under separate cover. The brochure will not be used in the selection process and may be retained in the City files.

**Please be advised that failure to comply with the following criteria may be grounds for disqualification:**

- Receipt of submittal by the specified deadline; please allow enough time to check in at the City Plaza security desk
- Receipt of the number of copies of the submittal specified
- Adherence to maximum page requirement
- Delivery of submittal in correct location
- Delivery in a sealed package with the project name and number for which your firm is submitting clearly labeled
- Providing a signed copy of addenda, if any, in response to this RFQ. It will be the interested firm's responsibility to check the website (see link below) for any updates, including addenda.

<http://www.mesaaz.gov/business/engineering/architectural-engineering-design-opportunities>

Adherence to the maximum page criterion is critical; each page side (maximum 8 1/2" x 11") with criteria information will be counted. Pages that have project photos, charts, and graphs will be counted towards the maximum number of pages. Table of Contents pages and tabbed divider pages will not be counted if they do not contain submittal information.

## **SECTION VII – SELECTION PROCESS AND SCHEDULE**

A Selection Committee will evaluate each SOQ in accordance with the criteria set forth in Section V above. References may be a factor in determining the final rank-ordered list; ensure the references provided are accurate. The Selection Committee will produce a rank-ordered list of the submitting firms and no interviews will be conducted as part of the selection process.

The City will enter into negotiations with the top ranked firms and execute contracts upon completion of negotiations. If the City is unsuccessful in negotiating contracts with the top ranked teams, the City may then negotiate with the next lower ranked team until a contract is executed. The City may decide to terminate the selection process at any time. Selection, negotiations, and contract award are contingent upon final award of CDBG funding for the Downtown Façade Improvement project.

The following schedule has been prepared for this selection process:

Pre-Submittal Conference	<b>February 16, 2017 at 8:00 am</b>
SOQs Due	<b>March 1, 2017 by 2:00 pm</b>

By submitting an SOQ, the respondent certifies that they have reviewed the City of Mesa's standard contract for professional services, including insurance requirements and scope, and, if selected, will execute the City's required contract without modification or exceptions. The City of Mesa's Professional Services Contract is available on-line at the following location:

<http://www.mesaaz.gov/business/engineering/engineering-contracts>

## **SECTION VIII – GENERAL INFORMATION**

**RFQ Lists.** This Design Services Request for Qualifications will be listed on the City's web site. The address is: <http://www.mesaaz.gov/business/engineering/architectural-engineering-design-opportunities>.

**Compliance with Arizona Revised Statutes (ARS).** Procurement of professional services by a municipality within the State of Arizona is governed by ARS Title 34. By submitting an SOQ under this solicitation, the submitter certifies that said submittal and their conduct in relation to this solicitation is in compliance with the requirements of ARS Title 34.

**Compliance with HUD Section 3 Requirements – 24 CFR Part §135.38.** The work to be performed under this contract is subject to the requirements of Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968, as amended, 12 U.S.C. 1701u (section 3). The purpose of section 3 is to ensure that employment and other economic opportunities generated by HUD assistance or HUD-assisted projects covered by section 3, will, to the greatest extent feasible, be directed to low- and very low-income persons, particularly persons who are recipients of HUD assistance for housing and businesses who qualify for Section 3 status (30% of the employees qualify as low income households).

**Compliance with HUD Minority/Women's Businesses (MBE/WBE) Requirements.** The work to be performed under this contract is subject to the requirements of Executive Orders 11625, 12432, and 12138. The purpose of the MBE/WBE requirement is to ensure that employment and other economic opportunities generated by HUD assistance or HUD-assisted projects, will, to the greatest extent feasible, be directed to a business in which minority group members own 51 percent or more of the company; or, in the case of a publicly-owned business, one in which minority-group members own at least 51 percent of its voting stock and control management and daily business operations. For this purpose, minority-group members are also those groups of U.S. citizens found to be disadvantaged by the Small Business Administration pursuant to **Section 8(d) of the Small Business Act**.

**Contract Version Updates.** If the Contract version changes after this RFQ is issued and prior to contract negotiations, the newer version of the Contracts will be in effect. It will be incumbent upon the respondent to check the City of Mesa Engineering Department's website for updates.

**Instructions.** The City of Mesa shall not be held responsible for any verbal instructions. Any changes to this Request for Qualifications will be in the form of an addendum. Firms are to check the City's website to see whether any addenda have been posted.

<http://mesaaz.gov/business/engineering/architectural-engineering-design-opportunities>

**City Rights.** The City of Mesa reserves the right to reject any or all Statements of Qualifications, to waive any informality or irregularity in any Statement of Qualifications received, and to be the sole judge of the merits of the respective Statements of Qualifications received. No binding contract will exist between the submitter and the City until the City executes a written contract.

**Protest Policy:** Refer to City of Mesa Protest Policy: Procurement Rules at <http://www.mesaaz.gov/home/showdocument?id=8712>, Article 6. Protests, Appeals, Debarments, Confidential Information, and Contract Disputes.

**Contact with City Employees.** All firms interested in this project (including the firm's employees, representatives, agents, lobbyists, attorneys, and subconsultants) will refrain, under penalty of disqualification, from direct or indirect contact for the purpose of influencing the selection or creating bias in the selection process with any person who may play a part in the selection process. This policy is intended to create a level playing field for all potential firms, assure that contract decisions are made in public and to protect the integrity of the selection process. All contact on this selection process should be addressed to the authorized representative identified below.

**Cooperative Use of Contract.** The contract awarded through this procurement process may be extended for use by other governmental agencies and political subdivisions of the State with the approval of the Consultant. Any such usage by other entities must be in accordance with the prices, terms and conditions of the City of Mesa Contract and with the ordinances, charter, rules and regulations of the entity using this Contract. Orders placed by other agencies and payment thereof will be the sole responsibility of that agency. The City shall not be responsible for any disputes arising out of transactions made by others.

**Questions.** Questions pertaining to the Design Services selection process or contract issues should be directed to Donna Horn of the Engineering Department at [donna.horn@mesaaz.gov](mailto:donna.horn@mesaaz.gov).

Also, to do business with the City of Mesa, you are required to register in our vendor system. AMS Vendor Self Service (VSS) provides vendors with a single entry point to register, provide payment and contact information, and select commodity interests and business types. All vendors who wish to conduct business with the City will be required to update and maintain all information used for the notification of bid opportunities and issuance of payment in the VSS system. The registration guide can be found at <http://www.mesaaz.gov/vendor/>, the actual web portal is at the bottom of the page.